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Dated: December 30, 2003

Signature: Richard H. Anderson

(Richard H. Anderson)

Docket No.: 27611/36440A
(PATENT)

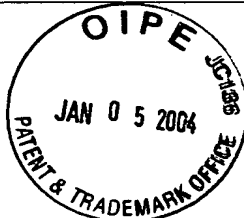
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Michael J. McNallan et al.

Application No.: 09/838,458

Filed: April 19, 2001

For: A PROCESS FOR CONVERTING A METAL
CARBIDE TO DIAMOND BY ETCHING IN
HALOGENS



Art Unit: 3682

Examiner: J. V. Howard

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AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

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TC 1700

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated July 31, 2003 (Paper No. 8), please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.